



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF PREVENTION, PESTICIDES
AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 9, 2007

SUBJECT: Not Likely to Adversely Affect Determination for Diazinon Relative to the Barton Springs Salamander

FROM: Thomas Steeger, Ph.D., Senior Biologist *Thomas Steeger 5/9/07*
ERB IV
Environmental Fate and Effects Division

TO: Arthur-Jean B. Williams, Associate Director
Environmental Fate and Effects Division

Attached is the assessment of potential effects to the Barton Springs salamander (*Eurycea sosorum*) from uses of the organophosphate insecticide diazinon. While the Endangered Species Act requires that we assess uses of pesticides relative to any potentially affected Federally-listed species, this assessment focuses only on the Barton Springs salamander, addressing provisions of two settlement agreements entered into by the federal government to resolve claims made by plaintiffs against EPA in two court cases (CBD v. EPA¹).

The attached assessment was conducted consistent with the Agency's Overview Document² and results in my determination that uses of diazinon are not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the Barton Springs salamander either directly or indirectly. As required by the Alternative Consultation Agreement EPA entered into with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service (Services), I have been trained by the Services to make such determinations. Additionally, this assessment was subjected to internal Agency peer review throughout its development. The review panel included two other scientists who have been trained by the Services to make NLAA determinations (Dr. Edward Odenkirchen and Dr. Melissa Panger).

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this assessment and effects determination for diazinon relative to the Barton Springs salamander.

cc: Steven Bradbury
Debbie Edwards
Peter Caulkins

Attachments

¹Settlement agreement of August 22, 2005: Center for Biological Diversity v. Stephen L. Johnson, et al. No. 1:04-cv-00126-CKK.

²Overview of the Ecological Risk Assessment: Process in the Office of Pesticide Programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Endangered and Threatened Species Effects Determinations: January 23, 2004.